

## Message Text

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44

ACTION SY-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 A-01 FBO-02 /020 W  
----- 025754

R 111436Z DEC 74  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5296  
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 18442

STATE FOR A/SY, EUR/EX; FRANKFURT FOR RTC, RSS FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652 GDS  
TAGS: ASEC  
SUBJ: SECURITY COVERAGE IN LENINGRAD

REF: A. STATE 270231  
B. LENINGRAD 1095

1. REFTEL B WAS STATEMENT BY CG, LENINGRAD, OF STRONG NEED  
FOR HOLDA TO RETURN LENINGRAD EARLY JANUARY TO COMPLETE SECURITY  
CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

2. I CONSIDER HOLD'S RETURN TO LENINGRAD TO BE ESSENTIAL TO  
THE SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF THE SPECIAL PROJECT. THE USE OF  
THE TDY SECURITY OFFICER FROM FRANKFURT IS SIMPLY NOT AN  
EFFICIENT WAY TO MANAGE THE PROJECT SINCE IT TAKES ABOUT THREE  
WEEKS JUST TO GET TO KNOW THE BUILDING SUFFICIENTLY WELL TO BE  
EFFECTIVE. AT THE MOMENT, HOLDA IS THE ONE PERSON WITH DETAILED  
KNOWLEDGE OF THE PROJECT REQUIREMENTS AND THE RANGE OF EXPERTISE  
TO MANAGE THE JOB. THE LENINGRAD PROJECT HAS BEEN A LONG AND  
FRUSTRATING EXPERIENCE FOR ALL CONCERNED. WITH THE END NEARLY  
IN SIGHT, WHAT WE NEED IS A MAN CLEARLY IN CHARGE OF THE PROJECT,  
AND NOT A NEW INDIVIDUAL WHO WILL HAVE TO EXPEND VALUABLE TIME  
IN BECOMING ACQUAINTED WITH THE BUILDING AND THE WORK TO BE DONE.

3. WILLIAM HOLDA HAS EXPRESSED A WILLINGNESS TO RETURN TO  
LENINGRAD IN EARLY JANUARY AND I WOULD STRONGLY URGE THAT HE  
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BE RETURNED TO LENINGRAD TDY FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT.

4. REGARDING THE COVERAGE OF LENINGRAD BY RSO HARVEY AND TSO ALLEN, IT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED THAT MOSCOW JUST BEGAN A LARGE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT BY A SEABEE TEAM. HARVEY AND ALLEN HAVE BOTH BEEN ON THE PLANNING END OF THIS PROJECT FROM THE BEGINNING AND THE POST CAN ILL AFFORD TO LOSE EIGHER ONE FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME. HOLDA HAS BRIEFED THE LENINGRAD SEABEE TEAM AND DETAILED THE WORK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED (SEE HOLDA'S MEMO DATED NOVEMBER 11, SUBJECT - LENINGRAD OFFICE BUILDING - OUTSTANDING CONSTRUCTION WORK).

5. IN A CONVERSATION WITH HOLDA THIS DATE HE ADVISED THAT WEEKLY VISITS BY EITHER HARVEY OR ALLEN WOULD BE SUFFICIENT UNTIL HIS RETURN TO LENINGRAD IN JANUARY.

6. I PLAN THEREFORE TO PROVIDE INTERIUM COVERAGE FOR LENINGRAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT BY MEANS OF WEEKLY VISITS (ONE OR TWO DAYS DURATION) OF HARVEY OR ALLEN UNTIL THE RETURN OF HOLDA. THIS COVERAGE WILL COMMENCE THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 15-21.  
STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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